

## Who We Are

*"The purpose of Community Services is to strengthen families and neighborhoods by operating four community centers and related programs through which City-related information, social services and referral services are provided to low-income populations."*

The City of Santa Barbara has four Community Center facilities, four community gardens, and a youth sports center, managed by the Community Services section of the City's Parks and Recreation Department. The facilities are conveniently located for easy access by the City's low-income, disabled, or senior populations and are on or near major transit routes. All centers are accessible to the disabled and have rooms for meetings, dining, receptions, special programs, and services.



## Special Program Highlights



The Annual Salsa Festival is held in September on a Saturday afternoon in Ortega Park. The event features live music, a talent show, *mercadito* (food and craft vendors), and a children's fun zone. The event culminates in a "breathtaking" fresh salsa contest judged by a panel of individuals well-known for their discriminating taste. For more information, contact Antonio Velasquez at 963-7567.



The Mobile Food Pantry is a partnership between the Santa Barbara Foodbank and Community Services. The program provides approximately 8000 pounds of free groceries to low-income families on a monthly basis at the Franklin and Lower Westside Community Centers. For information, contact Ricardo Venegas at 963-7605.

## Special Program Highlights



The Community Gardens Program gives local gardeners the opportunity to grow organic produce in their neighborhood. Individual plots are available to city residents. Community Garden plots are located in the Eastside, Lower Westside and Westside neighborhoods. For information or an application, call 963-7567 or 963-7605.



The Community Services Job Apprenticeship Program provides on-the-job training opportunities to extremely low-to-moderate income 14 to 21 year olds. Qualifying adults over the age of 55 are provided with a paid on-the-job training program through a collaborative agreement with AARP and Community Services Senior Employment Program. For more information, call 963-7567.

Photo credits: All photos are by Antonio Velasquez with exception of cover photo and photo of boy with watering can on inside left panel by George Rodriguez. Photo of dancing girl in costume on inside left panel courtesy of the South Coast Beacon.

## Call or visit us at the locations below

Franklin Neighborhood Center  
1136 East Montecito Street  
Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm  
963-7605; Fax 963-7607

Lower Westside Center  
629 Coronel Place  
Monday-Friday, 2pm-6pm  
963-7537; Fax 963-7538

Westside Community Center  
423 West Victoria Street  
Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm  
963-7567; Fax 963-7569

Youth Sports Center  
701 E. Haley Street  
Monday-Saturday, 4:30-8pm

Louise Lowry Davis Center  
1232 De la Vina Street  
Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm  
897-2568

Community Garden Program:  
• Yanonali Gardens • Rancheria Gardens  
• Pilgrim Terrace Garden  
• Garden at Parque de los Niños